

April 25, 2018

The Tewksbury Township Agricultural Advisory Committee met at 7:30 pm on the above date at the Mountainville Meeting Hall 60 Water Street, Mountainville.

Members present were: Shaun C. Van Doren, chairman, Peter L. Melick, Terrence McNamara, John Crimi and Scott Clucas.

Mr. Van Doren read the Open Public Meetings Act Statement indicating the meeting was noticed by the Township Clerk on April 11, 2018.

All present pledged allegiance to the US Flag.

REORGANIZATION

Mr. Van Doren indicated that the Committee needed to elect a Chair.

Election of Chair

Mr. McNamara made a motion to nominate Shaun Van Doren as Chairman, seconded by Mr. Melick. AYES: 5 NAYS: 0

MINUTES

January 26, 2017

Mr. Melick made a motion to approve the minutes of January 26, 2017, seconded by Mr. Clucas. AYES: 4, NAYS: 0, ABSTAIN: 1

Correspondence

A letter dated March 15, 2018 from the Hunterdon County CADB re changes to the Countywide ADA and that a continuation of a public hearing will be on April 12, 2018. Summary tables showing breakdown of preserved farmland by municipality in Hunterdon.

A letter dated March 2, 2018 from the State Agriculture Development Committee re FY2019 Farmland Preservation Program Appropriation requests.

Emails dated February 27, 2018 with Shana Goodchild, Land Use Administration and Melanie Mason, CADB staff re changes to ADA in Tewksbury.

Pending applications status review

No applications are pending.

New applications/requests

None

Farmland Preservation Plan

Mr. Van Doren reviewed the status of the Farmland Preservation Plan and asked members if they had any changes they want to recommend to the Land Use Board and Township Planner. The following were proposed:

Page 76 – the streamlining of permits to help farmers needs to be stressed and implemented by the Township as the Township needs to take action.

Page 77 – Wildlife Management needs to be made a priority, especially of municipally owned properties by increasing the number of permits available and the number of hunting days available.

Page 81 – Conclusion – Exemption to minimize local requirements to allow farming to continue. Also existing structures related to farming should be exempt from local control as long as they meet BOCA code requirements.

A motion was made by Mr. Melick seconded by Mr. Clucas to adopt the plan with the changes recommended and to request the Land Use Board to adopt and incorporate in the Township Master Plan.

AYES: 5, NAYS: 0

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Shaun C. Van Doren
Chair